

Hartlepool Port Sanitary Authority.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE

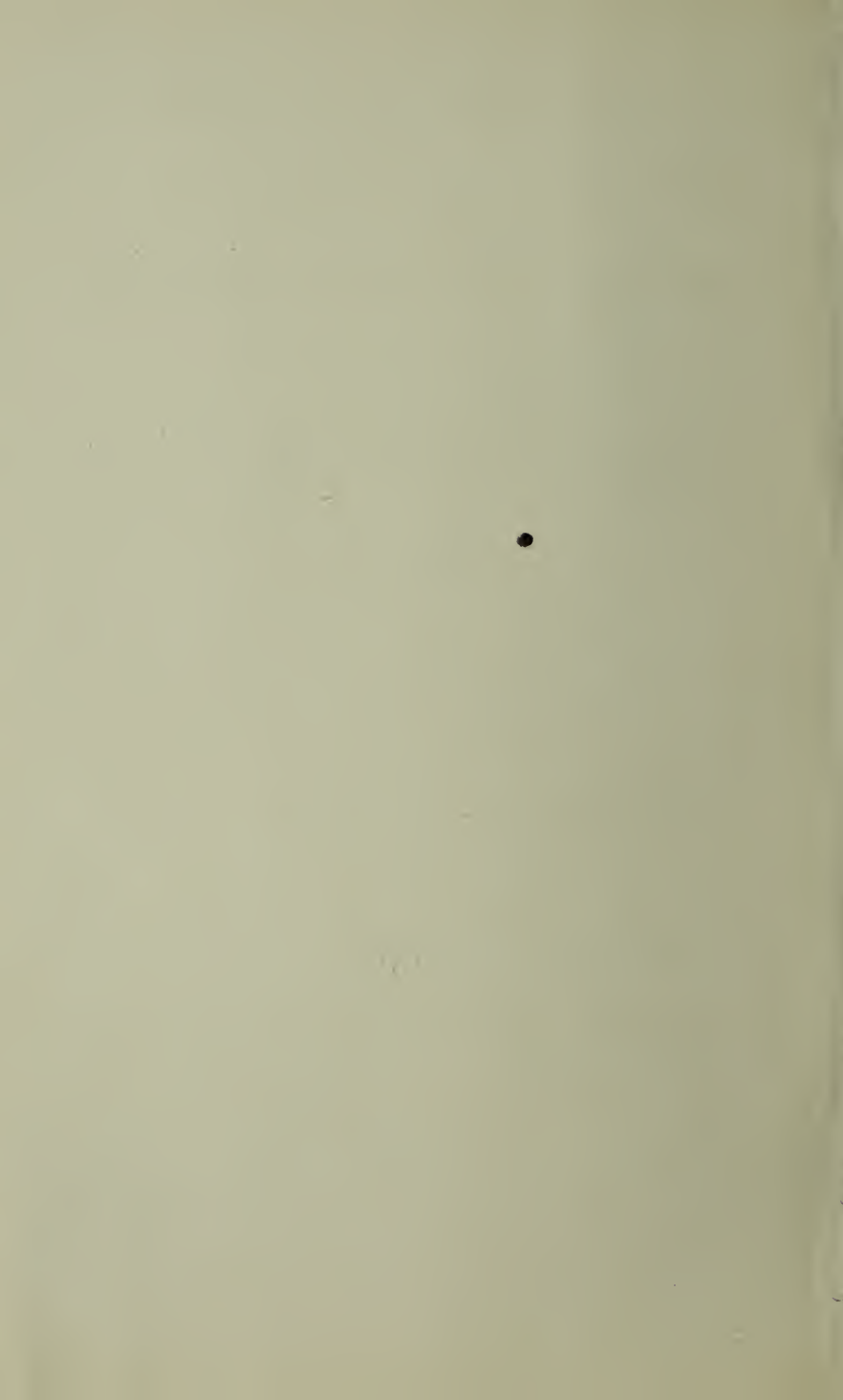
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1907,

BY

SAMUEL BIGGART, M.D., C.M.

Hartlepool :

F. W. MASON, PRINTER AND STATIONER, HIGH STREET.



Hartlepool Port Sanitary Authority.

1907-8.

CHAIRMAN—W. PEARSON.

West Hartlepool Representatives—

T. CLARKSON, Westbourne Road, West Hartlepool.
J. R. FRYER, Grange Road, West Hartlepool.
J. SUGGITT, Lower Archer Street, West Hartlepool.
J. BROWN, Grange Road, West Hartlepool.
W. J. COATES, Lynn Street, West Hartlepool.
J. C. DYER, Stockton Road, West Hartlepool.
W. PATERSON, Brougham Terrace, West Hartlepool.
T. LIDDLE, 30, Osborne Road West Hartlepool.
H. LAMB, Clifton Avenue, West Hartlepool.

Hartlepool Representatives—

J. HORSLEY, Sedgewick House, Hartlepool.
J. HUNTER, High Street, Hartlepool.
J. R. BUTTERWICK, "Kirkham", Hartlepool.
W. PEARSON, "The Lawns" Hartlepool.
T. W. WATSON, Gladstone Street, Hartlepool.
H. WITHY, Brantford House, West Hartlepool.

Fixed days of Meeting at the Municipal Buildings, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

May 16th, 1907	September 19th, 1907	January 16th, 1908
June 20th	October 17th	February 20th, "
July 18th	November 21st	March 19th, "
August 15th	December 19th	April 16th, "

EACH DAY AT 3-15 P.M.

General Purposes Committee—

J. HORSLEY,	J. R. FRYER,	J. R. BUTTERWICK,
J. HUNTER,	J. SUGGITT,	J. C. DYER
T. CLARKSON,	J. BROWN,	T. W. WATSON,
	H. LAMB.	

OFFICERS.

Clerk—C. J. BUNTING, Solicitor, 52, Church Street, West Hartlepool.
Medical Officer—S. BIGGART, M.D., 116, Scarbro' Street, West H'pool
Surveyor—J. W. BROWN, Church Square, West Hartlepool
Inspector—O. P. MITCHELL, A.R. San. I., 24 Town Wall, Hartlepool.
Assistant Inspector—R. CARTER, Pilot Master, Hartlepool.

ANNUAL REPORT.

WEST HARTLEPOOL,

February, 1908.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Hartlepool Port
Sanitary Authority.*

GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with the requirements of the Local Government Board and the Durham County Council, I herewith submit to you the Annual Report of the work done at the Port Sanitary Hospital, and at the Port, for the year ending December 31st, 1907.

I have briefly summarised the results of the year's work. The Monthly Reports have recorded in detail the precautions taken to prevent the introduction of disease, together with the measures taken to abate sickness, and to remedy sanitary defects where these have occurred.

1--HOSPITAL.

During the year ending 31st December, 1907, 50 patients were admitted into the Port Sanitary Hospital as compared with 80 in 1906, 117 in 1905, 97 in 1904, and 185 in 1903.

Of these 50 cases there were :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	41 cases
Diphtheria	...	...	...	3 „
Typhoid	...	...	...	4 „
Dysentery	...	...	...	1 „
Erysipelas	..	...	...	1 „
				—
				50
				—

Of these 50 cases there came from :

West Hartlepool	...	...	...	44 patients
Hartlepool	...	...	...	3 „
Vessels	..	...	...	3 „
				—
				50
				—

3 deaths occurred during the year :—

2 from Scarlet Fever
1 from Diphtheria

—
3
—

The average age of patients was 9·3 years.

The death rate was 6 per 100 as compared with 7·5 last year.

Small Pox.—It is very satisfactory to note that no case of Small Pox occurred either in the Hartlepoons or on board a ship. It is considerably over a year since a case of Small Pox has been in the district.

Hospital Accommodation.—The Drainage and Sanitary arrangements which were completed last year are working satisfactorily. The Hospital is in good sanitary condition and repair, and is capable of meeting the requirements of the locality.

II.—SHIPPING.

During the year 1907, three cases of Infectious Disease were imported by vessels arriving at this port. Of these cases, two were men suffering from Typhoid Fever, and one, a man, suffering from Dysentery. They were removed to the Port Sanitary Hospital where they recovered. The usual precautions were taken to prevent the spread of disease, and no further cases resulted therefrom.

The number of vessels inspected by me during the year was 92, and there were 9 re-visits as compared with 79 inspections and 22 re-visits in 1906.

The causes of inspection may be tabulated as follows:—

- 50 vessels reported by your Inspector or H.M. Customs Officers as having sickness on board either on arrival or during the time they were discharging cargoes.
- 18 vessels from infected or suspected ports.
- 10 examination of crew and alien passengers.
- 1 vessel having dead man aboard.
- 13 vessels having sanitary defects.
- 9 re-visits.

101

Precautions against the introduction of Cholera and Plague.

On the 9th September, 1907, the Local Government Board issued Regulations as to Cholera, Yellow Fever, and Plague Ships arriving from Foreign ports; also Regulations as to Cholera and Plague—Outward Bound Ships. Specified Articles: Part I. of the former defines an “Infected Ship” and a “Suspected Ship.” Part II. details the duties of Customs Officers. Part III. deals with the detention of an Infected or Suspected ship; the issuing of Certificates to the Master by the Medical Officer

of Health ; the transmitting of names and destinations of contacts by Clerk to Authority to other Sanitary Authorities ; the duties of the Medical Officer of Health and Master *re* disinfection of ship, clothing, and interment of bodies ; the destruction of rats, mosquitoes and their larvæ ; also the charges for disinfection or destruction. Part IV. deals with Signals by day or night of an Infected or Suspected Ship.

Part I. defines “ Cholera affected area ” or “ Plague affected area ” in the United Kingdom ; Outward bound ships and Outward voyage.

Part II. deals with duties of Medical Officer of Health in “ Cholera affected area ” or “ Plague affected area ” in respect of outward bound ships (1) examination of crew and bedding, (2) issuing of certificates to Master recording examination, disinfection, and destruction of rats ; also deals with duties of Master. A table of charges to be paid by Master, to Medical Officer of Health for granting of certificates, according to number of crew.

Part III deals with Specified Articles.

Monthly Lists of Infected and Suspected Cholera and Plague Ports continue to be distributed to local Customs, Officials, and Pilots.

Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.—A line of Steamers arriving at this port from Belfast where cases of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis had occurred, it was decided by the Port Sanitary Authority on the 20th of June, that this disease be added to the list of notifiable Infectious Diseases. A strict look out was kept upon vessels arriving from Belfast, and crews were medically examined upon arrival. No case of Cerebro Spinal Fever occurred in the district.

I herewith append a Summary of the Report of the work done during the year by your Port Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Oscar P. Mitchell.

PORT SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT of Vessels Inspected during the Year.

From 1st January to 31st December, 1907.

British Steam Ships	...	...	662
British Sailing Ships	...	...	142
Foreign Steam Ships	...	...	710
Foreign Sailing Ships	...	...	245
			1759

(As compared with 1800 last year).

Re-visits made to Vessels for Fumigat- ing, to see Regulations carried out where Notices had been served, to Passenger Steamers, to Vessels from suspected Ports, and to Vessels discharging perishable cargoes	299
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

Total Number of Inspections 2058

(As compared with 2387 last year).

The Nationalities of the Vessels were as follows :—

British	...	...	...	804
Swedish	...	...	...	390
Norwegian	...	...	...	214
German	...	...	...	103
Danish	...	...	...	110
Russian	...	...	...	55
Dutch	...	...	...	63
Greek	...	...	...	7
Belgian	...	...	...	5
Spanish	...	..	...	4
French	...	...	...	2
Italian	...	...	...	1
Austrian	...	...	...	1

Total 1759

Vessels Inspected from Foreign and Coastwise, 1907.

From	{ Steamships	...	1014
Foreign	{ Sailing	...	248
Coastwise	{ Steamships	...	357
	{ Sailing	...	140
	{ Fishing	...	—

Total Number Inspected 1759

Dirty Forecastles or Deck Houses.

The Forecastles or Deck Houses in 39 Vessels have either been cleansed, painted, or lime-washed.

Dirty Flooring, Overhead Decks, Sides of Vessels.

On board 60 Vessels the Flooring, Overhead Decks, or Vessels' sides in the Forecastles or Deck Houses were found in a dirty condition. Upon request these were all promptly cleansed.

Dirty Beds.

During the year a large number of Dirty Beds were, by my instructions, burned on board Steamships.

Structural Defects.

The Structural Defects include the following :—

<i>Defects.</i>	<i>Cases. Remedied.</i>	
Defective Drainage in Crews' space	... 7	7
„ Ventilation ... ..	... 20	18
„ Lighting ... ..	... 6	6
„ Glasses to Side Ports ...	... 18	18
„ Stoves causing smoky Forecastles	21	21
„ Overhead wood decks leaking into the Forecastle ... ..	... 10	10
„ Flange to hawse pipe causing water to leak into Forecastle ...	1	1
„ Bulkheads between W.C.'s and Crews' Space ... ..	... 6	6
„ W.C. Pans and Waste Pipes ...	8	8
„ Side Ports ... ..	... 14	14
„ Decklights ... ..	... 7	7
Wet Beds caused by sweating ironwork	... 2	2
Total	120	118

Notices

During the year a number of letters have been written to Owners and Masters of ships asking them to remedy Sanitary defects.

All are known to have complied with the regulations except in cases where vessels have left the port, when arrangements have been made for the work to be executed at the ports of destination; the Inspectors at such ports having been advised.

Water Tanks

Where vessels have had River water in use for drinking purposes, or where the water tanks were dirty, instructions were issued to have same emptied, cleansed, and either lime or cement washed. These instructions were, in all cases, obeyed.

Nuisance from Water Closets

On 14 vessels the deck water closet pans were found choked. Upon notice being given to the officers in charge, the nuisance was immediately abated.

Infectious Diseases

On April 28th, a man was removed from the Hartlepool Hospital to the Infectious Diseases Hospital suffering from Typhoid Fever. He was found to be the carpenter of the S.S. Umzumbi. The Medical Officer of Health accompanied by me, visited the vessel when the rest of the crew were medically examined, and the necessary disinfection carried out. No other case occurred while the ship was in port.

On June 27th, the cook of the S.S. Dalarne was examined by your Medical Officer of Health, who found him to be suffering from Dysentery, and ordered his removal

to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. The berth he had occupied was fumigated, cleansed, and painted.

On October 1st, a fireman, suffering from Typhoid Fever, was removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. The firemen's forecastle was fumigated, cleansed, and painted, and the W.C. disinfected with Corrosive Sublimate. The water tanks were emptied and cleansed, and a fresh supply of drinking water obtained.

In conclusion, I beg to express my thanks to your Port Sanitary Inspectors, the Collector of H.M. Customs and his various officials (especially those of the waterguard) and to Pilots, Master Mariners and all Port Officials for their valuable aid and co-operation in enabling me to carry out the various duties devolving upon the administration of the Port Sanitary Authority.

S. BIGGART, M.D., C.M.,

*Medical Officer of Health
to the Hartlepool Port Sanitary Authority.*